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NEWS RELEASE

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Baltimore Immigration Judge Participates in Naturalization Ceremony

BALTIMORE -- Immigration Judge Lisa Dornell from the Executive Office for Immigration Review, Baltimore Immigration Court, delivered the keynote speech and administered the oath of allegiance to approximately 75 candidates during a naturalization ceremony at the George H. Fallon Federal Building in Baltimore, Md., on Sept. 28, 2012. The Baltimore District Office of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, hosted the ceremony.

Biographical Information

Attorney General Janet Reno appointed Judge Dornell in April 1995. Judge Dornell received a bachelor of arts degree in 1983 from the University of Vermont and a juris doctorate in 1986 from the University of Texas at Austin School of Law. From 1990 to 1995, Judge Dornell served as senior litigation counsel, Office of Immigration Litigation, Civil Division, Department of Justice. From 1986 to 1990, she served as a trial attorney for the former Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), New York district office, and as an assistant general counsel, INS Headquarters, Washington, D.C. Judge Dornell lectures on immigration topics and court procedure at several local law schools. She is a member of the District of Columbia and State of Texas Bars.

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The Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) is an agency within the Department of Justice. Under delegated authority from the Attorney General, immigration judges and the Board of Immigration Appeals interpret and adjudicate immigration cases according to United States immigration laws. EOIR's immigration judges conduct administrative court proceedings in immigration courts located throughout the nation. They determine whether foreign-born individuals — whom the Department of Homeland Security charges with violating immigration law — should be ordered removed from the United States or should be granted relief from removal and be permitted to remain in this country. The Board of Immigration Appeals primarily reviews appeals of decisions by immigration judges. EOIR's Office of the Chief Administrative Hearing Officer adjudicates immigration-related employment cases. EOIR is committed to ensuring fairness in all of the cases it adjudicates.